



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

September 4, 2013

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

2013 FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS INCIDENT AND FIRE LOSS DATA REPORT

Enclosed are copies of the *2013 Fourth of July Fireworks Incident and Fire Loss Data Report*. Our Department, in cooperation with the Office of the State Fire Marshal and fire agencies throughout Southern California, participated in a Fireworks Safety and Educational Program. The information contained in this report is based on data collected from June 17, 2013, through July 17, 2013.

Intensive public awareness programs and media events on fireworks safety were conducted to encourage attendance at public fireworks displays. This year, the fire loss was decreased to \$11,700.00 as compared to the \$29,685.00 reported in 2012. The reported fireworks-related injuries increased by six (6) as compared to zero (0) injuries reported in 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180, or your staff may contact Assistant Fire Chief Philip Cocker, Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention Division, at (323) 890-4144.

DLO:ce

Enclosures

c: William T Fujioka
Brence Culp
Georgia Mattera
Sergio Vasquez
Monica Garcia
Randi Tahara
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Susan Nissman
Rick Velasquez
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SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

AGOURA HILLS
ARTESIA
AZUSA
BALDWIN PARK
BELL
BELL GARDENS
BELLFLOWER
BRADBURY

CALABASAS
CARSON
CERRITOS
CLAREMONT
COMMERCE
COVINA
CUDAHY

DIAMOND BAR
DUARTE
EL MONTE
GARDENA
GLEN DORA
HAWAIIAN GARDENS
HAWTHORNE

HIDDEN HILLS
HUNTINGTON PARK
INDUSTRY
INGLEWOOD
IRVINDALE
LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
LA HABRA

LA MIRADA
LA PUENTE
LAKEWOOD
LANCASTER
LAWNDALE
LOMITA
LYNWOOD

MALIBU
MAYWOOD
NORWALK
PALMDALE
PALOS VERDES ESTATES
PARAMOUNT
PICO RIVERA

POMONA
RANCHO PALOS VERDES
ROLLING HILLS
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES
ROSEMEAD
SAN DIMAS
SANTA CLARITA

SIGNAL HILL
SOUTH EL MONTE
SOUTH GATE
TEMPLE CITY
WALNUT
WEST HOLLYWOOD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE
WHITTIER

Daryl L. Osby



Fire Chief

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Prevention Division

Office of the Fire Marshal

2013

Fourth of July Fireworks

Incident and Fire Loss Data Report

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FIREWORKS

INTRODUCTION

As part of our continuing effort to improve service to the public, we have provided the following summary of fireworks-related injuries and losses. If a component of an incident is related to, or is directly attributable to, the handling or mishandling of fireworks, it must be correctly entered into the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department reports statistical information on all fires (vegetation, structure, misc.), to the NFIRS developed by the United States Fire Administration (USFA) in partnership with the National Fire Information Council (NFIC) and is designed as an all-incident reporting system to capture the full range of fire service incident types. This report is based on all available incident data collected involving fireworks over a one-month period from June 17, 2013 through July 17, 2013.

The Fire Department uses the information to support budget requests by comparing their own districts with all unincorporated communities within the County of Los Angeles, otherwise known as the Consolidated Fire Protection District.

Intensive public awareness programs and media events on fireworks safety were conducted to encourage attendance at public fireworks displays. This year, the fire loss was \$11,700.00 with six (6) reported fireworks-related injuries.

Incorporated Cities vs Unincorporated Communities

INCIDENT TYPE	INCORPORATED	UNINCORPORATED	TOTAL
Miscellaneous (MISC)	10	5	15
Vegetation/Brush (VEG)	7	6	13
Structure/Roof (STR)	1	0	1
TOTAL	18	11	29

FIRE LOSS	INCORPORATED	UNINCORPORATED	TOTAL
Miscellaneous (MISC)	\$0.00	\$10,700.00	\$10,700.00
Structure/Roof (STR)	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,000.00	\$10,700.00	\$11,700.00

TYPE OF FIREWORKS	INCORPORATED	UNINCORPORATED	TOTAL
Undetermined (UND)	12	5	17
Illegal (ILL)	6	6	12
Safe and Sane (SAS)	4	1	5
TOTAL	22	12	34

ACRES BURNED	INCORPORATED	UNINCORPORATED	TOTAL
Vegetation/Brush (VEG)	10.65	1.36	12.01
TOTAL	10.65	1.36	12.01

FIREWORK RELATED INJURIES	INCORPORATED	UNINCORPORATED	TOTAL
Injuries	5	1	6
TOTAL	5	1	6

FIREWORKS

WHEN USING "Safe and Sane" FIREWORKS REMEMBER:

- Always read directions and use common sense
- Have an adult present
- Use outdoors only – away from buildings, vehicles, dry grass, and other flammable objects
- Light one at a time then move away quickly
- Keep others at a safe distance
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Never alter or take apart
- Do not give to young children under any circumstances
- Have a bucket of water handy for emergencies and for dousing misfired and spent fireworks
- Never attempt to re-light or fix malfunctioning fireworks

BATTALION, INCORPORATED CITIES & UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

Los Angeles County Battalions (BN)

INCIDENT TYPE				PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE			ACRES BURNED	INJURIES	
BN	MIS	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS			
3	7	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3	4	1	0.11	0	
5	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.50	0	
6	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0	
7	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	0.41	0	
8	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	3	0	8	2	
10	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	1	
12	2	0	0	\$10,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	0	0	
13	2	0	1	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	3	0	0	0.00	0	
16	2	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	0	1	2	1	
17	0	5	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3	2	1	0.56	1	
18	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	1	0.21	1	
20	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0	
Total	15	13	1	\$10,700.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	0	17	12	5	12.01	6



Incorporated Cities of Los Angeles County

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE			ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS		
AZUSA*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0
BELL GARDENS*	4	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	2	1	0.00	0
DUARTE*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0
EL MONTE*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	1
GARDENA*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	1
HAWTHORNE*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.21	0
IRWINDALE*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	2.00	1
LAWNDALE*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	0.00	0
PALMDALE*	0	3	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	0	1	0.33	0
PICO RIVERA*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	0.00	2
SANTA CLARITA	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0
SOUTH GATE*	2	0	1	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	3	0	0	0.00	0
WHITTIER	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	2	0	8.00	0
Total	10	7	1	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	12	6	4	10.65	5

Unincorporated Communities of Los Angeles County

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE			ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS		
CARSON CO*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	0.41	0
EAST LOS ANGELES	3	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	0.11	0
LA PUENTE CO*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0
LAKE LOS ANGELES	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.12	0
LENNOX	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0
LITTLEROCK CNTY	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	1
MALIBU CO	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.50	0
PALMDALE CO	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.11	0
VALINDA	1	0	0	\$10,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	0
Total	5	6	0	\$10,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	5	6	1	1.36	1

TYPES OF INCIDENTS: MISC=Miscellaneous Property, VEG=Vegetation, STR=Structure or Roof
 PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS: MISC=Miscellaneous Property, CBR=Combustible Roof, STR=Structure

TYPES OF FIREWORKS: UND=Undetermined, ILL=Illegal, SAS=Safe and Sane

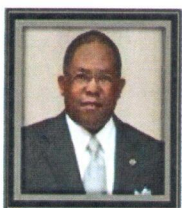
* Cities permitting "Safe and Sane" Fireworks

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT



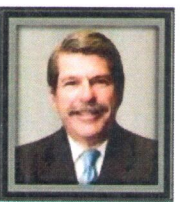
1ST DISTRICT - GLORIA MOLINA

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE				ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS			
AZUSA*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0	
BELL GARDENS*	4	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	2	1	0.00	0	
EAST LOS ANGELES	3	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	0.11	0	
EL MONTE*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	1	
IRWINDALE*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	2.00	1	
LA PUENTE CO*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0	
PICO RIVERA*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	0.00	2	
SOUTH GATE*	2	0	1	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	3	0	0	0.00	0	
VALINDA	1	0	0	\$10,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	0	
Total	12	2	1	\$10,700.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	10	6	2	2.11	4	



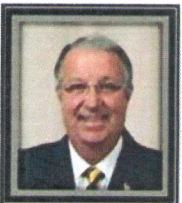
2ND DISTRICT - MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE				ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS			
CARSON CO*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	0.41	0	
GARDENA*	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	1	
HAWTHORNE*	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.21	0	
LAWNDALE*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	1	0.00	0	
LENNOX	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0	
Total	1	3	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	1	2	0.73	1	



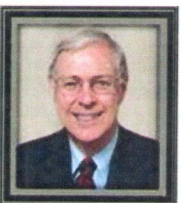
3RD DISTRICT - ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE				ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS			
MALIBU CO	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.50	0	
Total	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.50	0	



4TH DISTRICT - DON KNABE

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE				ACRES BURNED	INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS			
WHITTIER	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	2	0	8.00	0	
Total	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	2	0	8.00	0	



5TH DISTRICT - MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

CITY	INCIDENT TYPE			PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS			FIREWORK TYPE				INJURIES
	MISC	VEG	STR/ROOF	MISC	CBR	STR	UND	ILL	SAS	ACRES BURNED	
DUARTE*	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00	0
LAKE LOS ANGELES	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.12	0
LITTLEROCK CNTY	0	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.00	1
PALMDALE*	0	3	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	0	1	0.33	0
PALMDALE CO	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	1	0	0.11	0
SANTA CLARITA	0	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.11	0
Total	1	6	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	5	2	1	0.67	1

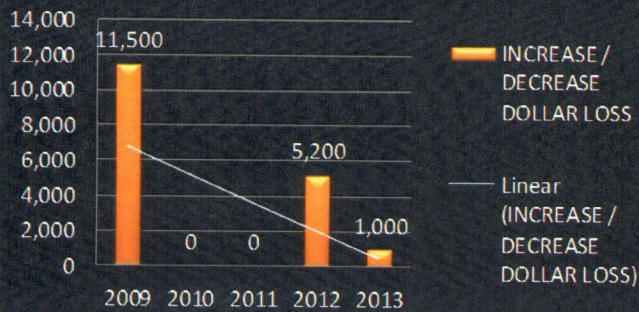
TYPES OF INCIDENTS: MISC=Miscellaneous Property, VEG=Vegetation, STR=Structure or Roof
 PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS: MISC=Miscellaneous Property, CBR=Combustible Roof, STR=Structure
 TYPES OF FIREWORKS: UND=Undetermined, ILL=Illegal, SAS= Safe and Sane

* Cities permitting "Safe and Sane" Fireworks

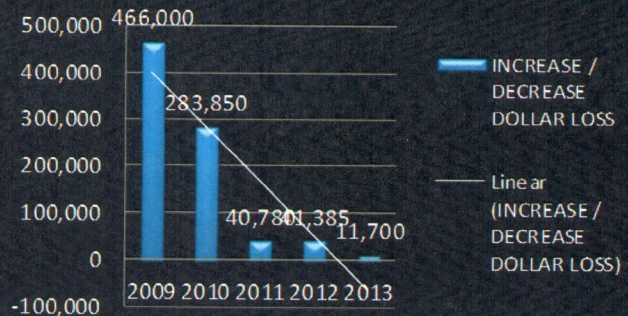
FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

A five year comparison of data is used in this report to identify trends reflecting the increase or decrease in the number of injuries and fire loss.

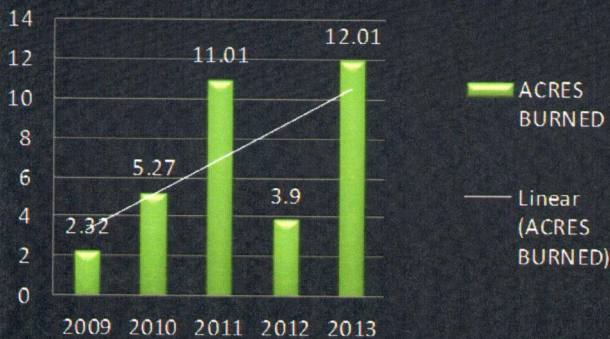
ROOF COVERING LOSS



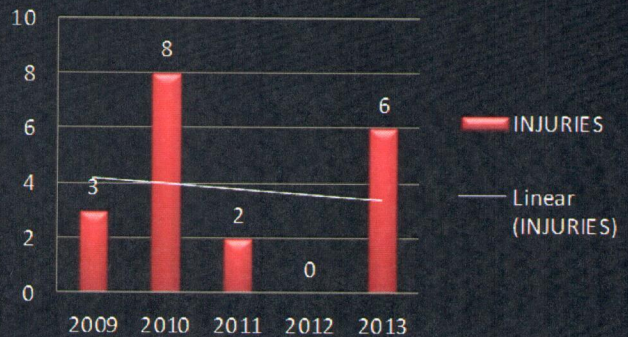
PROPERTY DAMAGE LOSS



ACRES BURNED



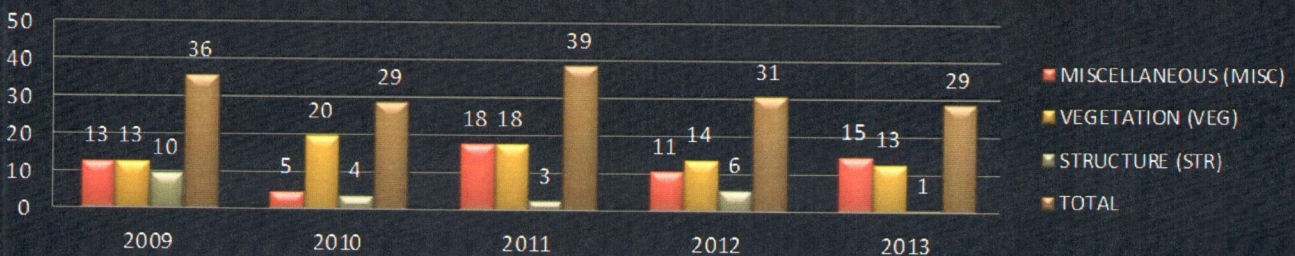
INJURIES



TYPES OF FIREWORKS



INCIDENT TYPE



24-HOUR ACTIVITY REPORT

This report includes a preliminary summary of firework-related emergency incidents, property loss, and the number of injuries that occurred on July 4, 2013. Also included is a summary of the community outreach efforts to mitigate the anticipated increase in emergency activity during the 2013 Fourth of July holiday.

FIREWORK-RELATED EMERGENCY ACTIVITY REPORT

The following firework-related emergency activity took place during the 24-hour period that began at 8 a.m. on July 4, 2013, and concluded at 8 a.m. on July 5, 2013. A comparison to the data collected during a similar 24-hour period during 2012 is also included.

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	2012	2013
STRUCTURE FIRES	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS FIRES	3	4
GRASS/BRUSH FIRES	2	4
TOTAL	5	8

DOLLAR/AVERAGE LOSS/INJURIES	2012	2013
STRUCTURES/CONTENTS	\$0	\$0
MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY	\$4,525.00	\$10,700.00
GRASS/BRUSH	.22 ACRES	8.63 ACRES
INJURIES (CIVILIAN)	0	6
TOTAL	\$4,525.00	\$10,700.00

During the 24-hour reporting period, the Department's Fire Command and Control Facility (FCCF) received 1,966 calls, of which 1,122 required resources to be dispatched. The other calls were duplicate calls, non-injury calls, questions regarding illegal fireworks, and questions regarding cities allowing "Safe and Sane" Fireworks. Call volume increased when compared to 2012. Last year, FCCF received 1,831 calls, of which 1,067 calls required resources to be dispatched.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Special emphasis was placed on warning the public of the dangers associated with the use of fireworks. The public was encouraged to attend a professional fireworks show instead of using private home-use fireworks. The following is a list of the campaign highlights for 2013:

- Conducted the 22nd Annual "Junior Fire Chief for a Day Poster Contest" with the theme of *Visit a Local Professional Fireworks Show*. All elementary schools within the County were invited to participate and over 500 posters were submitted.
- A press conference was held on June 21, 2013, to announce and award prizes to the winners of the "Junior Fire Chief for a Day Poster Contest." The public was also encouraged to attend a professional fireworks show. Representatives from our Department, the City of Los Angeles Fire Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Grossman Burn Center, and the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department were in attendance. The City of Los Angeles Police Department was also on hand to discuss the dangers of both legal and illegal fireworks.
- Conducted numerous interviews with local and national newspapers, radio, and television stations regarding the potential dangers of fireworks.
- Placed in operation the Professional Fireworks Show Directory Hotline at (888) 654-FIRE to provide information in both English and Spanish on the locations of professional fireworks shows.
- The Public Affairs Unit posted public safety information and videos on the website at www.fire.lacounty.gov to emphasize the cities that allowed "Safe and Sane" Fireworks as well as the cities not permitting fireworks. The website included a list of all professional fireworks shows in the County and advised that fireworks are not permitted in unincorporated County areas. We also promoted the www.safejuly4th.org site in this section.

- Provided fireworks safety information to all fire stations for distribution to the public.
- Reviewed and approved the permits and provided fire safety officer oversight for 38 public fireworks displays.
- Staffed the Communications Center with Fire Prevention Division personnel to support the fireworks enforcement and confiscation activity of fire units and police agencies.
- Partnered with law enforcement agencies throughout the County. An estimated 20,000 copies of flyers and posters were printed for all County fire stations to promote a safe and sane Fourth of July holiday.

CONCLUSION

The number of fire incidents (structure, grass/brush, and misc.) caused by illegal and/or "Safe and Sane" Fireworks decreased by 1, from 31 in 2012 to 30 in 2013. The dollar loss decreased from \$41,385.00 in 2012 to \$11,700.00 in 2013. There were six (6) civilian reported injuries caused by illegal and/or "Safe and Sane" Fireworks this year.

As part of our ongoing effort to discourage the use and sale of illegal fireworks in your city, it is imperative that we continue to make an aggressive effort against those who jeopardize public safety by the sale and use of illegal fireworks.

Additionally, it is our goal to reduce the property loss and the number of injuries caused by the use of illegal fireworks.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Los Angeles County Fire Department is to protect lives, the environment, and property by providing prompt, skillful, and cost-effective fire protection and life safety services.

VISION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be an exemplary organization acclaimed for our national reputation, our regional strength, and our hometown attentiveness as we provide fire protection and life safety services.

CORE VALUES

Integrity • Teamwork • Caring • Courage • Community • Commitment



CONTACTS

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